

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACE AND
RECREATION COMMITTEE
June 8, 2016 6:30 pm
Town Hall Banquet Hall Room**

Attendees: Dennis Visconti, Chairman, Steve Sylvester, Aldo Ursino,

Bill Previdi, Jack Bracciotti, Stephen McDonough , Therese DiBlasi James Sarno & David Goodberg

Absent members: Maura Campbell, Cynthia Hemenway ,

Guests: Steve Angelo, New Recreation Director ; Anthony Wilson, Selectman: Raymie Parker & Grace McManus

1. RE: Ice Skating Arena –Firstly, the committee would like to thank Lue for a great job and now has opened the Arena after being closed while the arena was under some repairs. The ice is back on top of the 42 year old floor for at least a year until further notice. The committee expressed last month and this month that the hourly rate for ice time should be increased \$5 dollars every year, and possibly start the first increase of \$17 dollars. This increase would be in the range and still lower than some other arenas. James Sarno wants to see an expert ice arena consultant evaluate the Arena for the most cost effective fix that the Arena will need next year, and he would like to know if the Arena’s work estimate cost will be paid off and how many years. Selectman Wilson agrees that an analysis should be done for a cost effect plan to pay 1.4 million back over 20 years or less to repair Arena. Others in the Committee had wonderful ideas as well as Selectman Wilson, like having more hockey games from other cities to use our arena and advertising ticket costs on billboards and in all cities papers and lower rates to use ice from 4am to 8am and many more ideas.

2. RE: Play Grounds/ Field Permits & Recreation- Steve Angelo Rec. Dir. is really on a roll making many plans for recreation activities for all age groups starting around July 10th . Making better scheduled times for field permits 9am to 9pm and making better field fee transitions for particular events. Having 17 different soccer groups making field time with transitions is pertinent. Soccer is an ever-growing sport in the USA and not limited to Stoneham. Steve Angelo recognizes that and he will also offer Sunday Soccer Groups which can teach our very young.

Raymie Parker added that it would only be fair for all recreation systems, Recreation Dept, High School & other youth clubs to have permitting use and that all share a master calendar.

3. RE: Golf Courses – We should test the waters and ask Kevin if an 11+/- dollar play all day should be tried on weekdays. There are still bare spots from October and need reseeding although July and August months can kill seeding. As for irrigation there still is no new control panel and new irrigation water heads are needed. Committee suggests that reports on number of rounds are needed.

4. RE: Community Compact- Stoneham will be given 20,000 dollars from the Commonwealth for OSR planning, since MAPC was unable to do the planning. This planning will have to be done soon because we are ending near of FY 2016. It will be paid to Stoneham in two installments 75% with execution of the state grant contract which is now completed. And 25% upon completion of the project and submission to Division of Local Services of an OSR report and results.

5. RE: Dog Park- Raymie Parker and Grace McManus attended the meeting to coordinate their efforts for the Dog Park with the OS&R Committee efforts.. There was a brief discussion regarding funding and location for a dog park. They were asked to contact Maura Campbell to coordinate efforts